

# Labour Market News

CENTRAL ALBERTA

Government of Alberta ■

## JOB SEEKERS

## Beetle Wars

### Job hunting and destroying pine beetles

Drive west into the mountains and it won't be long before you see the signs of a deadly epidemic. The deep green of a healthy pine forest gives way to the rust colour of dead and dying trees, marking the presence of a tiny killer: the mountain pine beetle.

About the size of a grain of rice, the pine beetle has destroyed vast forests in BC and the infected area is growing eastward into Alberta. To combat the menace, the Government of Alberta is putting millions of dollars behind researching and managing the problem. In fact, this is one of the few growth areas in the forestry sector.

### Seasonal work

Ending the pine beetle's rampage is a technical job that changes with the seasons.

In spring and early summer, government forest technologists (see page 3) head into Alberta's woods to trap the beetles using a chemical cocktail of scents. "The mix is like a perfume for beetles," explains Barbara de Groot, executive director-registrar for the College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists (CAPFT). Traps alone won't solve the problem, but will help to manage the spread of beetles. "The traps are one part of a bigger plan," de Groot says.

*Continued on page 2*



Alberta Sustainable Resource Development forest officer Bart McAnally counts moths.

## NEWSPAPERS



## INTERNET



## NETWORKING



## EMPLOYERS

## New ways to find talent

### Non-traditional ways to target your hunt

If you are looking for new employees, newspapers are the traditional place to start. And placing an ad in the classifieds is still one of the best ways to reach a lot of people quickly.

But there are other options for employers who would like to fine tune their talent hunt. Here are a few ideas that may lead to results.

#### 1. Go back to school

Schools are a great place to get your name out to talented job seekers. The halls are filled with skilled talent about to enter the workforce.

Most post-secondary schools make it simple to post an ad (sometimes for free) on their Internet job board. And students use them. For employers, it means reaching the very people who will drive the industry in the future, and you can never start the process too early.

Don't hesitate to visit high schools or talk with college classes well before you need help. Talking with students builds excitement about your industry, and your company.

Students will remember you, and so will teachers who can funnel promising talent to employers they trust and with whom they have built a relationship.

*Continued on page 9*

*See page 8 for a related Best Practice story.*

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**NEXT ISSUE...**  
 Refrigeration and air  
 conditioning mechanics

Between July and early winter, surveyors (sidebar on right) map the spread of the bug by air and on land. Then a forest technologist (see page 3) will use the information to plan a winter assault. But choosing the best solution can be difficult. "It's extremely complicated," says de Groot. "You have to consider every factor including the economics and available roads before making a decision."

In the war on pine beetles, winter is the busy season. The job of destroying the infested trees is usually handled by fallers and buckers (see page 3) who cut and burn stands of infested trees, and control crews can be working until June.

Because working with pine beetles is seasonal, many workers have different jobs throughout the year. Someone surveying in October, for example, can work as a faller in the winter, or even as a tree planter in the summer.

### How to get work

Surveyors and fallers require some experience related to forestry, but not necessarily a post-secondary education. Both types of workers, along with forest technologists, are often employed by contractors who work for the Government of Alberta or a major forestry company.

Tracking down individual contractors and contacting them is the best way to find work. A good place to start is Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC). This website lists all the companies which have bids for provincial contracts to deal with pine beetles. To find contractors, visit APC at [purchasingconnection.ca](http://purchasingconnection.ca). Follow the vendor link, click on "search opportunities" and enter the keywords "mountain pine beetle."

If you are taking a forestry course, check your school's job boards online and in the career centre. Also keep an eye out for posters on bulletin boards. Another valuable source for jobs is the Canadian Forests Website ([canadian-forests.com](http://canadian-forests.com)) and its job board.

### Moving up

Surveyors and control crew staff are entry-level positions in this industry. Professional forest technologists need a two-year diploma at least (see page 3 for more about technologists) and professional foresters need a university bachelor of science degree (visit the College of Alberta Professional Foresters website at [capf.ca](http://capf.ca) for more about professional foresters).



## Counting bugs

### Beetle surveyor (prober)

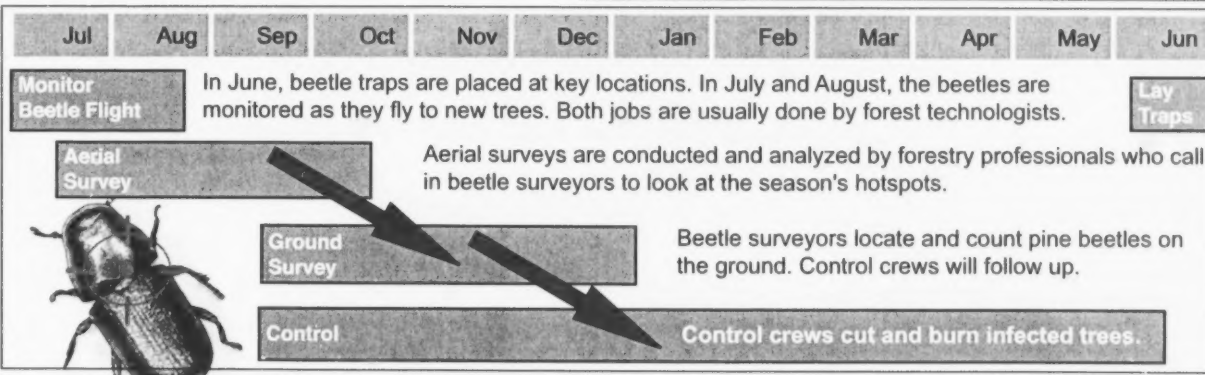
*Erica Lee, a mountain pine beetle prevention specialist with the provincial government, rips into the bark of a pine in search of beetle larvae—one part of a surveyor's job.*

Finding the trail of the pine beetle is easy. Dead trees are red. But dead trees are no good to a hungry beetle. Once the tree dies the beetle moves on to a new meal. Finding out where beetles go is the job of beetle surveyors (NOC 8421).

After aerial surveys find patches of dead pine, beetle surveyors move in to set up circles around the infestations. Every pine tree within the circle is examined for signs of the beetle. The trees are marked and all the information is recorded. Trees that may contain pine beetle larva are checked and also marked. Surveyors are held to very high standards, and their work is reviewed regularly by forest technologists.

Surveyors usually work for contractors in teams of two to three making around \$200 a day. Surveying is physical work involving long walks in cold conditions. Employers are looking for people with a knowledge of the forest's insects, trees and plants. Compassing, mapping and GPS experience are very important in this type of field work. Many employers look for training or experience in natural resource management related work such as timber surveys, or training such as Northern Lakes College's 10-month course ([northernlakescollege.ca](http://northernlakescollege.ca)), or Portage College's 39-week program ([portagecollege.ca](http://portagecollege.ca)). A valid Alberta driver's licence is usually required. Standard First Aid, WHMIS, Defensive Driving, and ATV safety training also look good on a resumé. Even with a strong background in forestry, employers train staff for this job.

Because contractors follow the beetle, surveyors usually work in remote locations out of camps, or from rented accommodation which the employer provides.





## Timber!

### Fallers and buckers on control crews

*A control and burn crew watches as beetle-infected trees go up in smoke and flame.*

Fallers (NOC 8421) are a special type of forestry worker. They are skilled at bringing trees down safely in the most challenging conditions. Working deep in the forest, fallers know how to deal with the harsh realities of nature. In fact, they usually love being outdoors.

Fallers on pine beetle projects often work for a contracted forestry company hired by the government to cut and burn small stands of infected

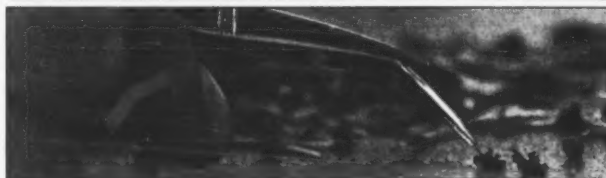
trees. They often work in control crews of two or more with assistants called buckers. While the faller cuts down trees, the bucker cuts logs on the ground and piles them for burning.

Fallers and buckers work in the forest but not always for forestry companies. Seismic companies also hire these workers, as do forest fire-fighting companies.

A faller's day is long and tiring. "It's hard work," says Josh Begin, foreman with X4S Tree Rangers. "You can be working 500 metres from the nearest road and have to haul all your equipment in." Fallers can be assigned to jobs across the province.

Many fallers learn their skills on the job, but the industry is moving to professional standards. If you are working in Alberta you need to be certified.

Enform (enform.ca) offers four levels of faller training and certification. Level 1 will allow you to work as a bucker, while level 4 means you can teach falling. In Red Deer, Safety Now also offers a chainsaw safety course (safetynow.ca). Companies will also train buckers and fallers internally. Fallers and buckers are usually paid by the tree, and can earn about \$200 a day including accommodation, but pay varies with experience.



## Technologists in the forest

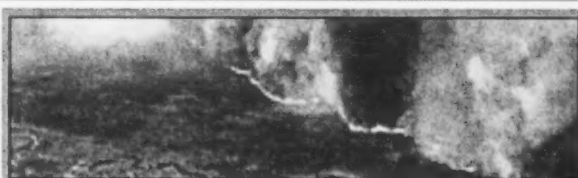
### Forest technologists (NOC 2223)

The forest is a home for wildlife, a filter for the water we drink and a place to enjoy wilderness camping. Preserving all this at once is no easy task, but forest technologists are professionals trained to manage a diversity of goals.

It takes two years of education in technologist programs such as NAIT's Forest Technology program (nait.ca), another two years of work experience, and you have to pass an exam before you can apply to register as a professional forest technologist (RPFT) with CAPFT. And to work as a forest technologist in Alberta, you have to be registered with CAPFT.

Technologists can be found working on computers analyzing data and planning. In the field, they manage control crews and survey crews, set and monitor traps, conduct aerial surveys and ensure quality standards are met.

Technologists can be employed by government, contractors and large forest companies. According to the 2005 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey, forest technologists earned \$44,800 a year on average. More information about this profession can be found on the College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists website (forestechs.ab.ca).



## Wildfire and forestry jobs

The Government of Alberta employs a variety of people to manage our public forests. There are permanent jobs such as forest technologists and biologists, but there are also seasonal jobs controlling forest fires. Perhaps one of the most challenging jobs are with the wildfire crews. Some crews will even rappel from helicopters to the front lines of a forest fire.

The job is very demanding physically, and training starts in April. Resumes have to be in by the end of November for next summer.

Lookout observers usually have a much quieter summer watching the forest for smoke, but they have to be prepared to handle working an entire season most of themselves. Application for lookouts need to be in by January 15.

A description of all these jobs can be found at Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's website (srd.gov.ab.ca/wildfires/employment) where you can download an application. There is also information on seasonal jobs for youth aged 16 to 18. The Alberta Junior Forest Rangers offers youth a chance to work the summer in the forest, and pick up valuable experience that will look great on a resume for beetle positions.





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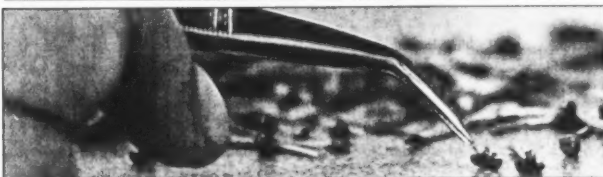
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## WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A ...

## Beetler

(Beetle surveyor and control crew faller)

### How did you start in this career?

It was rather odd. I was in between contracts in pharmaceutical sales and I knew someone in forestry through backpacking, skiing and hiking. They knew I could fix things and asked me to apply for a job managing a fire camp. I applied and that's how I got into forestry. It was a summer job, but the beetle work was starting to come up, and in 2006 I started on a control crew. This summer I've gone to beetle surveying full-time.

### What do you enjoy about your job?

I work with a really fun crew. And I love just being outside in the forest. I get to go to some unique locations and I get paid for it. There's also a lot of variety. Surveying will start up soon, and then in the winter there's control work. I prefer the surveying, but a lot of people like control, because you get to work with chainsaws and burn things. The problem is you have to carry everything into the site. You have to carry gas, oil and the chainsaw. Sometimes it can take a couple hours. But with surveying you go in light with an axe and a knife for peeling bark. You also go into more locations surveying. There's a satisfaction in this job too. If you go over the B.C. border, you can see we are doing something here.

### What are some of the challenges of your job?

Safety is always an issue. I'm not concerned with the wildlife, but the most dangerous part of the job is chainsaw operation. It's an element that's always there. You can never let your guard down. You also have to develop an eye for surveying. You are not always looking for the classic signs of beetles. You learn to notice the small clues, like where woodpeckers are, and small differences in colour and contrast. Weather can be an issue, but where you draw the line is an individual decision. For some people -20C can be the cutoff. When it gets really cold and you are on a snowmobile, the tiniest bit of skin exposed is like a knife in the eye. Those days are rough.



Beetle surveyor and faller Ross Wilson has always enjoyed the great outdoors, and now he enjoys working outside in Alberta's forests.

### Has the economic slowdown affected your industry?

Forestry is not in great shape. The slowdown is always there. I'm enjoying the position right now, and just have to take it as it comes. It's just one of those things you have to deal with.

### How does your job affect your lifestyle?

When I was in sales I was travelling 60 per cent of the time so I'm used to the travelling. And now I have a great schedule. I work eight days on and six days off. It's a wonderful shift. You work 10-hour days, but there's lots of time off.

### What are your future career goals?

I enjoy this enough that I will stay with this. The economy is not looking great to be looking for anything else. And I'd prefer to stay here. And the beetles aren't giving up.

## CAREER PROFILE

## Ross Wilson

Wilson's career has taken a unique path. After finishing a university degree in agriculture, Wilson took a job selling pharmaceuticals for 20 years. The work took him across Western Canada, but the contracts were erratic—sometimes he had work, sometime he didn't. When a chance came to change careers, he jumped at it. A friend knew he loved the outdoors, and suggested he apply for a position managing a camp for Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. He got the job, and when an opportunity to work with beetles came up, he jumped at that too. "It's a great job," says Ross. "I ran into a friend of mine out by Canmore and he said, 'I love your office.' I'm going to ride this one as long as it goes."

## Working as a 'BEETLER' (NOC 8421)

### Wages

Working for the government, Wilson's pay is good and includes benefits. But his pay structure is different from most in this job. Pay can be higher when working for a contractor doing beetle surveys, but there are fewer benefits. Surveyors are usually paid by the day or by the hour and can earn between \$150 and \$300 a day. Fallers are more commonly paid per tree and earn about the same. Accommodations and food are usually provided by the employer.

### Starting the job search

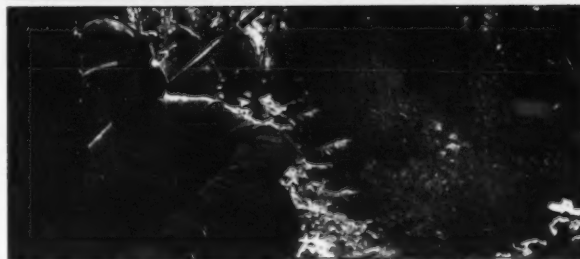
You can find contractors working on pine beetle control at Alberta Purchasing Connection (see page 2 for more info). But to get started here are a few companies that hire and have websites: Xylem Silviculture (xylem.ca), Celtic Reforestation (celticreforestation.com), and Pro-Tech Forest Resources Ltd. (pro-techforest.ca).



## The Art of *Falling*

***If a tree falls in the forest is anybody trained?***

*Yes. In fact it takes quite a bit of skill to bring down a tree safely. Before they can begin sawing (above), fallers carefully plan where the tree will end up (below). They make precise cuts (far bottom) that guide the tree's fall to within a metre or two of where the faller wants it to be (right).*



## TIPS FOR JOB SEEKERS

## Dealing with gaps in your resumé

### Making the most of your background

**work**  
**it**  
**out**

Resumés and cover letters are sales tools designed to help you land a job interview. And what's one surefire way to make employers worry? Large gaps in your employment record.

But unfortunately, not everyone goes straight from one job into the next. Unemployment happens for many reasons, and the gaps are noticed.

#### It's what you did, not what you didn't do

A common instinct is to start explaining the gap away. But Jackie Brooks with Toombs Inc., a career transition, executive search and coaching consulting company, has a different approach.

Her advice is to concentrate on what you have done rather than worry about what you didn't do between jobs. "On a resumé, right below your contact information, I like to see a whole section devoted to accomplishments from all areas of your life ... from your career, your volunteer and community efforts, and your hobbies and interests," she says. "If a guy coaches a team to championship level, and he's going into a job as team leader, the fact that he coached that team is an accomplishment. By the time an employer has reached the work history section, you've grabbed them with your accomplishments."

You might imagine that talking about your own accomplishments is easy. Actually, it can be quite hard. "Most people don't recognize their own accomplishments," says Brooks. "You need to look at anything you've done that produced some kind of



results. And that happens in all areas of your life."

Still, the average resumé writer has to deal with the work history section at some time. And there are several ways to handle gaps.

One of the most common ways is to use years rather than specific dates. It's simple and it works a lot of the time to cover gaps shorter than one year. If there are still holes, think back. If you worked freelance, or had occasional employment, that is part of your history and should be included. And don't forget volunteering. It is also professional experience.

If the gap in your work history was 20 years ago, don't worry. Employers really don't care what you were doing when the Beetles split up. And if the gap was a choice to enrich your life through travel, studying or volunteering, don't hide the fact. Instead, highlight it. Employers are far more likely to be impressed by your initiative than worried about a lack of drive.

Still, some gaps simply can't be glossed over. And Brooks argues the

best solution is to make the resumé speak for itself. "It has to represent you, it has got to represent the industry you are in and it has to represent what you have done," says Brooks. "A lot of people have gaps in their resumé of one kind or another. But if you focus on what you can do and what you have done, employers will be more open to not worrying about it."

#### Stay positive

As far as Brooks is concerned the most important rule to remember is to focus on your positives.

Rather than using a cover letter to explain why you were away, talk about what you have done and what you can do for their organization. If you feel you have a weakness, start talking about it as an area for development. "Including negatives or shortcomings in your cover letter will send you to the 'no' pile," says Brooks. "Employers want to hear what you can do today, so tailor your resumé to mirror that job and make the employer focus on what you have. Marketing your positives and positive attitude can make a big difference."

#### COMING EVENTS IN CENTRAL ALBERTA

The theme for this year's **Canada Career Week** will be **People Pursuing Potential**. Between November 2, and November 6, the Red Deer Labour Market Information Centre (see page 9 for location) will host a variety of free events that can help job hunters and workers develop their full potential. On Monday, speakers will be giving advice for anyone interested in going to school. On Tuesday, Olds College, Red Deer College and other schools will be in to explain what they have to offer. On Wednesday, two employers will be showcasing their

work opportunities. Thursday will be devoted to the trades, self-employment, and the Lacombe Employment Centre. On Friday, the Career Assistance Network ([rdcan.ca](http://rdcan.ca)) and Employment Placement and Support Services ([epssreddeer.com](http://epssreddeer.com)) will be in to give their input on how to develop your potential. For more information about what's happening in this year's Canada Career Week visit [alis.alberta.ca/ce/cp/cs/careerevents.html](http://alis.alberta.ca/ce/cp/cs/careerevents.html) or phone Atul Badoni Supervisor, Alberta Employment & Immigration at 403-340-7957.



# Labour Force Survey Highlights

## Third quarter 2009

Between the third quarter (July, August and September) of 2008, and the third quarter of 2009 the size of Central Alberta's labour force barely budged. Unfortunately, the same can not be said for the number of unemployed.

In one year, the ranks of the unemployed almost doubled from about 9,800 to 18,000 workers, pushing the unemployment rate up from 3.5 per cent to 6.4 per cent. But the rise in unemployment is not just a local trend.

Between September 2008 and September 2009 the provincial rate rose from 3.8 per cent to 7.1 per cent. Nationally, the unemployment rate went from 6.4 per cent to 8.2 per cent.

In spite of the eye-popping rise in local unemployment levels Central Alberta remains fairly well off. The rate is still lower than the provincial average. And Alberta enjoys the third lowest unemployment rate in the country. There are some healthy signs of recovery in the future.

In Alberta, construction seems to be gaining ground after adding 17,400 new employees in September.

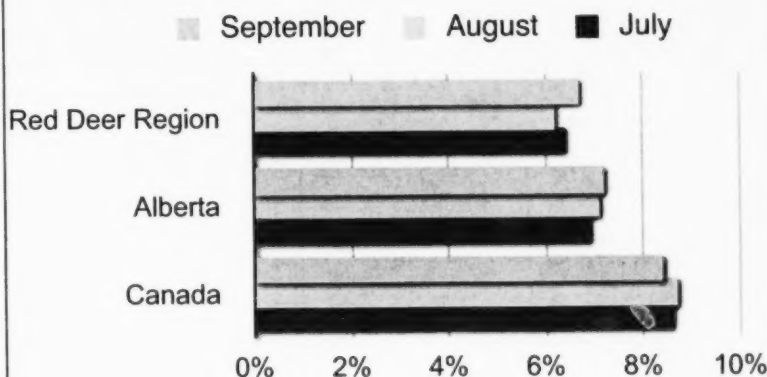
The outlook for one important part of the energy sector also seems brighter. As oil prices have moved up, so has confidence in the oil sands. Imperial says it plans to go ahead with its Kearn project. And Suncor Energy Inc. has announced it may restart some projects sooner than expected.

Unfortunately, the news is not so good for natural gas companies. Low prices have severely hurt many gas companies and they have responded by cutting drilling and employment.

### The slowdown slows down

If all the numbers seem a bit depressing, there is at least one ray of hope. The spiral downwards seems to have slowed down. In Alberta, employment is on the rise, and hard-hit youth are finding work. In Alberta, people aged 15 to 24 experienced the largest employment gains this September, with employment rising by 7,900 people.

## Unemployment Rate

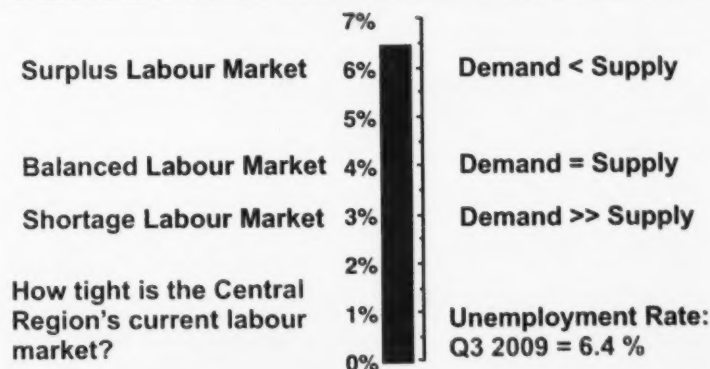


Region	Central Alberta Labour Force Statistics *				
	July	Aug	Sep	Q3 2009	Q3 2008
Labour force (000s)	283.5	281.9	279.4	281.6	281.8
Employed (000s)	265.4	264.3	260.7	263.5	282
Unemployed (000s)	18.1	17.6	18.7	18.0	9.8
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.2%	6.7%	6.4%	3.5%

NOTE: \*Central Alberta data is combined data for the economic regions of Red Deer, Camrose-Drumheller, and Banff, Jasper and Rocky Mountain House. Unemployment figures for Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House were calculated when suppressed. All data are unadjusted.

SOURCE: Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry Labour Force Statistics, [employment.alberta.ca/lmi](http://employment.alberta.ca/lmi) (Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey data)

## Labour Market Thermometer





# New tools to find talent

The City of Red Deer searches far and wide

**Best  
Practice**  
FOR EMPLOYERS

Trying to find a new employee? The classifieds can help. A single ad will be noticed, particularly in this job market. Trouble is, employers may get too much attention.

Ads in the newspaper are often followed by a minor tsunami of resumés. Some are good. Most are not. "It takes a lot of staff time to go through hundreds of resumés," says Carol Dyck, recruitment coordinator with the City of Red Deer. "In the past, it wasn't so much of a problem. But times have changed now and we can target our search a little better."

For employers short on time there are ways to target your talent hunt, and the City of Red Deer is pursuing a full spectrum of strategies to pull in the best talent available.

## Networking

When it comes to looking for new staff, networking is still one of Dyck's favourite tools. "It's still the best method of finding people," she says.

One of the first places to start networking is with your own employees. "The recommendations from employees are always valuable," says Dyck. "They won't give me a name of someone they don't want to work with." Employers can even have employees do a lot of the leg work for them.

"I send my IT people out to their local professional associations to help me recruit," says Dyck. "And my transit manager is going to a conference with an ad and a job description."

**"I send my IT people out to their local professional associations to help me recruit. And my transit manager is going to a conference with an ad and a job description."**



Carol Dyck with the City of Red Deer explains an opening at the Central Alberta Job Fair.

## The web pays off

The Internet is now a central tool for HR teams, and for good reason. "Instead of spending thousands of dollars on newspaper advertising, we're spending hundreds of dollars by going to specific websites," Dyck says. "Websites are really making a big difference for us."

Using job boards on websites is not only cheaper, it also has a better chance of being noticed. "When I put an ad in the newspaper for an engineer, it's hit and miss," says Dyck. "When I advertise for engineers on a professional website, engineers will go there quite regularly. And whether they are actively looking for a job or not, they may see the ad."

## Job fairs

In a room brimming with job seekers carrying stacks of resumés, job fairs look like a place where employers will be swamped by applicants. But Dyck says fairs can work—if well-managed.

"The secret is to make sure the jobs we have available are very clear. We have a list of what jobs we have, and when people come in and ask about jobs we can show them our listings and ask them to apply to the one that best suits them. When we get back to the office it takes us less time to go through them. I'll even just jot down a few notes at the fair to help."

## Planting the seed

Schools are a great place to find new talent, and the City of Red Deer starts the talent search early. "We do a lot of work in schools," says Dyck. "It may not be for jobs today but it plants a seed for jobs down the road. A student might get hired today as a caretaker or as a lifeguard, but when they become a professional engineer I want them to come back and think about us."

## EMPLOYERS

*Continued from page 1*

## 2. Call the ambassador

Your own staff know the job better than anyone. And if they like working for you, they are your most powerful attraction tools. Use them. Tell them when work is available and ask them if they know anyone. Sometimes they may even want the job, or one of your contractors may be interested in working directly for you.

## 3. Network

Networking is important for job hunters. It is also important when you are looking for help. Keeping in touch with friends, relatives and other employers can lead to valuable contacts with exceptional talent. Joining the Chamber of Commerce can be a good start, but don't forget your hockey team. Your left-winger could easily be an IT genius, ready to solve your computer problems.

## 4. Use the Internet

Modern technology has revolutionized HR, and should be used. Electronic job boards like the Job Bank ([jobbank.gc.ca](http://jobbank.gc.ca)) make posting ads a breeze. But the true brilliance of the Internet is not in mass appeals to job hunters. It is the ability to find everything and anything at the click of a mouse.

If you want to find Alberta's forest technologists, there is a website. If you need Alberta's locksmith association, there is a website. And many have job boards.

Besides official associations and organizations, there are discussion boards, general interest websites and forums that may welcome your opportunity.

Targeting these associations and groups means you will be talking to more talent with the right credentials and interests. It also means you can connect with workers who have barely thought about a job change, but would jump at the opportunity if they happened to see it while catching up on industry news.

## 5. Look back

Call the good employees who worked for you in the past but have left. They may want to come back.

## 6. Go back to the editor

With all the new technology out there to help employers post ads and reach people, the old skills of analysis and writing are still critical.

Whether it's on the Internet or bulletin board at the local college, employers still need to think about exactly what sort of job they are offering, and explain it clearly and accurately. Most employers wouldn't put up with a resumé overflowing with spelling errors, and by the same token job hunters won't be dazzled by a fuzzy job description.

**FOR A BEST PRACTICE STORY ON  
INNOVATIVE WAYS TO FIND EMPLOYEES, SEE  
PAGE 8.**

## EMPLOYER

# Resources

Both federal and provincial governments have practical programs to help meet the current needs of employers. Here are a few programs that can be of assistance to business.

### Information sources

The Labour Market Information page on the Alberta Employment and Immigration (E&I) website offers links to labour force statistics, forecasts, and wage and salary information. ([employment.alberta.ca/lmi](http://employment.alberta.ca/lmi))

- The Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP) website ([centralalberta.ab.ca](http://centralalberta.ab.ca)) has hundreds of links to information sources and programs including:
- Support for Training Workers
- Wage Subsidy Programs
- Recruiting Employees
- Employment Services in Central Alberta
- Foreign Worker Employer Guide

### Seminars and networking

**Employer Connections** are held every Wednesday at the Labour Market Information Centre, 2nd Floor, First Red Deer Place, 4911-51 St. (across from the Provincial Building).

The meetings are an opportunity to meet job seekers, employment agencies and career counsellors.

Each week a single employer is showcased and presents their current job opportunities. To participate free of charge call 403-340-5353 and ask for a Business and Industry Liaison.

### Labour solutions

- Red Deer Aboriginal Employment Services. Ph. 403-358-7734
- Métis Employment Services. Ph. 403-342-6636
- Career Assistance Network provides job search workshops, job board and assistance for job seekers. Ph. 403-341-7811
- Employment Placement Support Services supports Albertans with workplace training and enhanced employment services. Ph. 403-343-6249
- Employment Access offers employment programs for clients with disabilities. Ph. 403-341-2363
- DRES provides support and assistance to employers hiring people with disabilities. Contact the Canada-Alberta Service Centre in Red Deer. Ph. 403-340-5353

### Personalized help when needed

There are dozens of programs available to employers. E&I employees will visit the workplace and provide a summary of options and opportunities. For example, they can direct managers to initiatives that will help their business, and workforce adjustment teams are available to help employees find new work if they are laid off. For more information call 403-340-5353 and ask for a Business and Industry Liaison.

### Sign up free! We're live and online

*In the News*, an electronic digest about regional business expansions, relocations and closures, and *Finding Work In*, which profiles different career opportunities, are available online at [employment.alberta.ca/central](http://employment.alberta.ca/central). A free subscription service will notify you by e-mail when the latest edition of each product comes out.

On the same web page there are *Labour Market News* products for Stettler, Wetaskiwin, Vermillion and Wainwright.

# JOB SEEKER Resources

There are many resources in the central region that can be helpful to job seekers and workers alike.

## Where to find us

This publication, In the News, (an electronic digest about regional business expansions, relocations and closures) and Finding Work In, which profiles different career opportunities, are available online at [employment.alberta.ca/central](http://employment.alberta.ca/central).

A free subscription service will notify you by e-mail when the latest edition of each product comes out.

## Job search and career websites

- [jobbank.gc.ca](http://jobbank.gc.ca) (Job listings, links and other services)
- [alis.alberta.ca](http://alis.alberta.ca) (Alberta Learning Information Service)
- [workopolis.ca](http://workopolis.ca) (Job listings)
- [monster.ca](http://monster.ca) (Job listings)
- [nextsteps.org](http://nextsteps.org) (Job resources for youth)
- [albertajobs.com](http://albertajobs.com) (Job listings)
- [hgcareers.com](http://hgcareers.com) (Job listings)
- [healthjobs.ab.ca](http://healthjobs.ab.ca) (Health care job listings)

## Job search and career information by phone

Alberta Career Information Hotline:

1-800-661-3753

Fax: 780-422-0372 TDD: 780-422-5283

## Resumé review service

The Government of Alberta e-Resumé Review Service is a great way to have a resumé reviewed and improved, before sending it to employers.

To access the service, log on to [alis.alberta.ca/hotline/resume](http://alis.alberta.ca/hotline/resume) and follow the instructions to send your resumé for review.

The service is free to residents of Alberta and those seeking work in Alberta.

## Resources for labour market information

These websites offer a wealth of labour market information on Alberta and specific communities.

- [employment.alberta.ca/lmi](http://employment.alberta.ca/lmi) (Alberta Employment and Immigration)
- [alis.alberta.ca](http://alis.alberta.ca) (Alberta Learning Information Service)
- [albertafirst.com](http://albertafirst.com) (Business and economic information)
- [centralalberta.ab.ca](http://centralalberta.ab.ca) (Central Alberta Economic Partnership)
- [alis.gov.ab.ca/js/job-seeker.html](http://alis.gov.ab.ca/js/job-seeker.html) (Labour market information across Alberta)
- [labourmarketinformation.ca](http://labourmarketinformation.ca) (Service Canada)

## Seminars and networking

**Employer Connections** are held every Wednesday at the Labour Market Information Centre, 2nd Floor, First Red Deer Place, 4911-51 St. across from the Provincial Building.

The meetings are an opportunity to meet employers face to face.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION CENTRES

Are you looking for a new job? Thinking about another career? Are you wondering about education, or training? The answers to all these questions, and many more, can be found at your local Labour Market Information Centre (LMIC). LMICs have books, magazines, newspapers, software and videos about employment-related topics. Best of all, you can speak to Career and Employment Counsellors who can help you find answers to career questions. There are LMIC's across Alberta. For a complete list, see below or go online to: [employment.alberta.ca/lmic](http://employment.alberta.ca/lmic).



## LMIC's in Central Alberta

### Camrose Alberta Service Centre

3rd Flr., Gemini Centre, 6708 - 48 Ave.  
Ph. 780-608-2525

### Drayton Valley Sub-Office

2nd Floor Provincial Building  
5136 - 51 Ave.  
Ph. 780-542-3134

### Olds Alberta Service Centre

4905 - 50 Ave.  
Ph. 403-507-8060

**Red Deer Canada-Alberta Service Centre** 2nd Floor First Red Deer Place, 4911 - 51 St.  
Ph. 403-340-5353

### Rocky Mountain House Alberta Service Centre,

4919 - 51 St. Ph. 403-845-8590

### Stettler Alberta Service Centre

4835 - 50 St. Ph. 403-742-7586

### Wetaskiwin Alberta Service Centre

1st Floor Macadil Building  
5201 - 51 Ave.  
Ph. 780-361-5878

### Lloydminster LMIC

5016 - 48 St. Ph. 780-871-6445

### Wainwright LMIC

810 - 14 Ave. Ph. 780-842-7500

### Vermilion LMIC

4701 - 52 St. Ph. 780-853-8164